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(54) Title: PROGRAM-CONTROLLED UNIT EMPLOYING A STOP INSTRUCTION
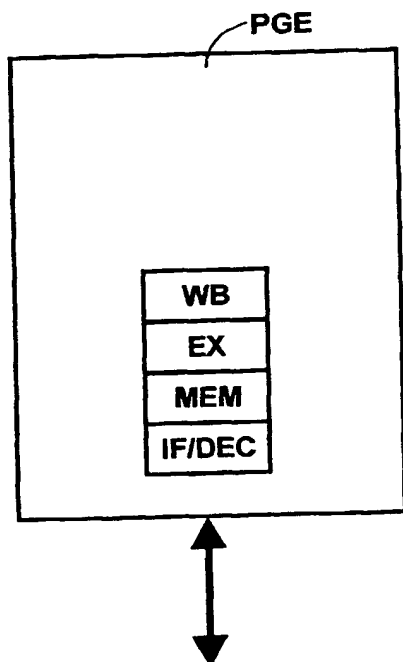
(57) Abstract: The invention describes a program-controlled unit having an instruction execution pipeline comprising a plurality of pipeline stages. The program-controlled unit described is distinguished in that it is able to execute instructions which instruct it to stop individual, a plurality of or all pipeline stages. This allows the stopping of the pipeline stages to be tested simply, quickly and comprehensively under all circumstances.